



PORTLAND MAINE

Strengthening a Remarkable City, Building a Community for Life • www.PortlandMaine.gov

Portland Police Department
Michael J. Sauschuck
Chief of Police

October 16, 2013

MuckRock News
Dept MR 1561
PO Box 55819
Boston, MA 02205-5819

Re: Request for Portland Police Department Drone Documents

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to a request under Maine's Freedom of Access Act, 1 M.R.S.A. §401, *et. seq.* for police department records relating to the department's acquisition, use of and policies regarding aerial drones. Pursuant to Title I M.R.S.A. §402, "the term 'public record' means any written, printed or graphic matter or any mechanical or electronic data compilation from which information can be obtained, directly or after translation into a form susceptible of visual or aural comprehension, that is in the possession or custody of an agency or public official of this State or any of its political subdivisions ... and has been received or prepared for use in connection with the transaction of public or governmental business or contains information relating to the transaction of public or governmental business.

In regards to your FOAA requests:

1) Acquisition documents:

i) requests for proposals (RFPs), proposals/quotes submitted by vendors, contracts, leases, budget requests, project/equipment budgets, cost allocations or reimbursements for the purchase of drone equipment;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

ii) Grant applications and award letters for drone equipment purchases;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

iii) Insurance contracts for all drone equipment;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

iv) Communications (including electronic communications) between the agency head or agency quartermaster (or individual responsible for equipment purchases and maintenance) and drone vendors, manufacturers or retailers;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

v) Communications (including electronic communications) between the agency head and agency quartermaster (or individual responsible for equipment purchases and maintenance) regarding acquisition, lease or use of drone equipment;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

vi) Communications (including electronic communications) between the agency head and the governor, mayor and city/town manager regarding the acquisition of drones;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

vii) Applications (including all components and support documentation) for Certificates of Waiver/Authorization (COA) from the Federal Aviation Administration, as well as COA grant notifications and final agreement;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

viii) Contracts for services related to drones, such as data storage, data analysis, image storage, image analysis, video storage, video analysis, operation, maintenance;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

2) Equipment logs:

i) Inventories/logs/lists/databases of all drones owned, leased or operated by or for the agency;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

ii) Maintenance logs for all drones owned, leased or otherwise operated by or for the agency;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

3) Policy documents:

i) Policies, guidelines, protocols, manuals and/or instructions on the use/operation of drones and usage of data, images and video obtained from drone flights;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

ii) Communications from the agency head, quartermaster (or individual responsible for overseeing equipment purchases and maintenance) on approved uses for drones;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

iii) Memorandums of understanding (MOUs), memorandums of agreement (MOAs) or any other agreements or contracts with other government agencies, private corporations, organizations or individuals to share drone equipment, data, images or video or to operate drones on behalf of the agency;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

4) Training documents:

i) Curriculum used to train drone operators and observers;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

ii) Training log for all drone operators and observers;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

iii) Certifications of training completion for all drone operators and observers;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

iv) Contracts, purchase orders, budget requests or reimbursement orders for training sessions for all drone operators and observers;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

5) Usage documents:

i) Flight logs for all drone flights, including training flights;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

ii) Flight logs transmitted to the Federal Aviation Administration pursuant to Certificate of Waiver/Authorization (COA) requirements;

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

iii) Reprimands relating to drones, including misuse of equipment and failure to properly maintain equipment.

There are no records in the possession of the Portland, Maine Police Department responsive to your request.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,


Michael J. Sauschuck
Chief of Police